

History education is an integral part of the education of future generations of Americans. I would like commend the National History Day program for empowering teachers to improve history education and influencing students to follow Zack Sheehan's exemplary example.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE
BASCOM MUTUAL TELEPHONE
COMPANY ON THE OCCASION OF
ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to a special company in Ohio. This year, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company in Bascom, Ohio, celebrates 100 years of dedicated service.

Mr. Speaker, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company in Bascom, Ohio, is one of the oldest mutual telephone companies in the State of Ohio. Founded in 1906, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company has succeeded in providing quality telephone service to the residents of Bascom, Ohio.

Beginning operations on February 22, 1906, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company, known as Bascom Farmers Mutual Telephone Company from 1916 to 1953, began providing telephone service to the residents of Bascom, Ohio.

At the time of its inception in 1906, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company began operations with only eighteen members seeking the company's services. Today, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company, who is a vital component to the telecommunications infrastructure of Northwest Ohio, proudly serves over 940 members.

Throughout the decades, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company, as a product of Seneca County, has clearly distinguished itself as an innovator and industry leader. Through a dedicated workforce, top-notch facilities, and excellent customer service, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company has set a benchmark for how to run a successful business.

The real success of The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company comes not only from the technological advancements of its facilities, but from its employees. The management and staff of The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company have indeed provided their customers with the service and dependability that are expected of a first-class company.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the employees and the legacy of The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company. As all who benefit from this fine establishment gather to celebrate its 100th anniversary of service, I am confident that the excellent employees will continue the successes of The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company into the future.

TRIBUTE TO MOUNT PISGAH
BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the historic Mount Pisgah Baptist Church in Orangeburg, South Carolina as it celebrates its 153rd anniversary on June 25, 2006. Mount Pisgah has been a beacon in times of joy and sorrow for the Orangeburg community, and I congratulate Reverend D. Edward Chaney and his congregation on this significant milestone in the life of the church.

Mount Pisgah Baptist Church began as a gathering of a small group of Christian slaves in 1863. Two years later, this group broke off from the First Baptist Church in Orangeburg. They called their new church Sunny Side Baptist. By 1868, the congregation had grown to fifty members, and two years later they changed the name to Mount Pisgah Baptist Church. The renamed church began to grow in size and its ministry. By 1877, Mount Pisgah boasted a congregation of 283 members.

The 20th century was momentous in the life of Mount Pisgah. Remarkably from 1901 until 2000, the church had only three pastors. Reverend Nelson Nix presided over the congregation from 1900–1945. During his ministry, the first church building burned in 1902. However, Reverend Nix and the congregation rebuilt the structure that is still in use today.

Reverend John D. Rhodes served as Mount Pisgah's pastor from 1945–1968, and was followed by Reverend F.G.S. Everett who led the congregation from 1969–2001. During Reverend Everett's distinguished service, Mount Pisgah was listed on the Registry of Historical Places.

Today, Reverend Chaney presides over a dynamic church that is among the oldest in Orangeburg and South Carolina. The church has added a multipurpose education complex, and more property has been acquired for future expansion. Due to the enormous growth in the church, Reverend Chaney has initiated a Million Dollar Capital Campaign for church improvements and new construction.

Mount Pisgah currently has 17 ministries that include an outreach radio broadcast that reaches far beyond Orangeburg County into neighboring Calhoun, Colleton, and Dorchester counties. The church is also renowned for its music ministry that performs inspired Christmas and Easter concerts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mount Pisgah Baptist Church on its 153rd anniversary. This vibrant church has contributed to the rich history of Orangeburg and South Carolina, and I offer my congratulations and wish Mount Pisgah continued success and Godspeed!

INTRODUCTION OF THE STEEL
FINANCING FAIRNESS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Steel Financing Fairness Act. This bill

helps our Nation's beleaguered steel industry by stopping the government from forcing American steel workers to subsidize their foreign competitors. Specifically, the bill prohibits the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) and the Export-Import Bank (EXIMBANK) from providing any assistance to countries that subsidize their steel industries. The Steel Financing Fairness Act also instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to reduce America's contribution to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by a prorated share of the IMF's assistance to countries that subsidize their steel industries.

One of the problems facing America's domestic steel industry is that it must compete with foreign industries that receive subsidies from their governments. Some of these subsidies are explicitly intended to provide these companies with a non-market advantage over American steel producers. The U.S. Government further compounds the damage caused by these subsidies by forcing the domestic steel producers to support their major competitors through taxpayer-funded programs.

For example, according to the most recent figures available, the five countries with the greatest EXIMBANK exposure are all among the top ten exporters of steel and/or steel products to the United States. In fact, EXIMBANK has provided almost \$20 billion of U.S. taxpayer support to these countries.

Meanwhile, OPIC has provided almost \$6 billion of the taxpayers' money to leading steel exporters. Thus, the American taxpayer has provided at least \$26 billion worth of support to the countries that are the leading competitors of the domestic steel industry. This does not count the funds provided these countries by the IMF. Since money is fungible, the practical effect of providing aid to countries which practice industrial policy is to free up resources these governments can use to further subsidize their steel industries. Thus, taxpayer dollars sent to foreign governments and industries can benefit foreign steel manufacturers even if American taxpayer money is not sent to directly benefit those industries.

However, hard as it may be to believe, organizations funded by American taxpayers actually use American tax dollars to directly assist foreign steel producers! For example, among the projects funded by EXIMBANK in recent years is an \$18 million loan guarantee to expand steel manufacturing in Red China.

Ironically, many of the supporters of these foreign giveaways claim to be promoters of free trade. This claim makes as much sense as a supporter of higher taxes and spending claiming to be a fiscally conservative supporter of limited government. Free trade is the peaceful exchange of goods and services across borders unhampered by government interference. Taxing American workers to support their overseas competitors is not free trade. Instead, it is corporatism designed to benefit certain politically powerful interests at the expense of American entrepreneurs and workers.

I have no doubt that America's steel industry can out-compete the steel industry of any country if allowed to compete on a level playing field. Unfortunately, due in part to government policy, today's playing field is in no way level. Congress must end this economically

